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(54) DISPLAY ELEMENT

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To make it possible to lessen the reflection of the light from outside entering from the exit surface of an element within the element and to improve the contrast of a displayed image, etc., by providing the light exit surface with a circularly polarizing means.

SOLUTION: Only the linearly polarized light component in the longitudinal direction aligned to the axis 11a of the polarized light of a linear polarizing plate 11 among the external light rays L having the random polarization components made incident on the linearly polarized light 11 from outside is made incident by passing the polarizing plate 11. The incident linearly polarized light 14 in the longitudinal direction changes to a right (or left) circularly polarized light 15 at the time of passing a quarter-wave plate 23 having a double refractive main axis 23a inclined 45°. This right (or left) circularly polarized light 15 is reflected on the inside surface of the electrode 1 of an org. electric field light emitting (org. E1) element 40 and is reflected as the left (or right) circularly polarized light 16. This light is changed again into the linearly polarized light 17 in the transverse direction at the time of passing the quarter-wave plate 23 and the emission thereof to the outside is shut off by the polarizing plate 11. As a result, the degradation in the contrast at the time of light emission as the display element does not arise and the sufficient light emissive luminance is maintained.

